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On: August 22 2003

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Attorney Docket No. 0155.130US
(formerly 18097-030310US)

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:
Juha Punnonen et al.

Application No.: 09/724,869

Filed: November 28, 2000

For: OPTIMIZATION OF
IMMUNOMODULATORY
PROPERTIES OF GENETIC
VACCINES

Examiner: Teresa D. Wessendorf

Art Unit: 1639

**COMMUNICATION REGARDING
PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT**

Examiner Teresa D. Wessendorf
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Art Unit 1639
1911 S. Clark Place
Crystal Mall One, 7th Floor
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Madam:

Applicants submitted an Information Disclosure Statement and PTO Form 1449 (comprising 26 pages) in the above-referenced application on May 21, 2002. Copies of the references cited on that 26-page PTO Form 1449 (PTO/SB/08A-B) were not included with that submission, since they had been previously provided in parent application USSN 09/248,716, filed February 10, 1999.

Examiner Teresa Wessendorf informed Applicants' attorney, Margaret A. Powers, that she was unable to locate copies of a number of references listed on the PTO Form 1449 submitted on May 21, 2002 in the present application in the USPTO file for parent application

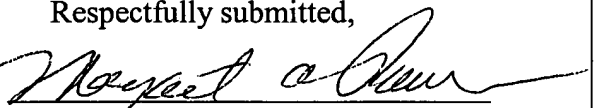
USSN 09/248,716. With the Office Action mailed on June 25, 2003 in the present case, Examiner Wessendorf enclosed a copy of the previously submitted PTO Form 1449, noting those references that she was unable to locate in the file for parent application USSN 09/248,716.

For the convenience of the Examiner and to facilitate prosecution of the present application, Applicants hereby provide fresh copies of those references the Examiner was unable to locate in the USPTO file for parent application USSN 09/248,716. In addition, to facilitate the Examiner's review, Applicants also re-submit a copy of the 26-page PTO Form 1449 filed in the present application on May 21, 2002. To alleviate any confusion, Applicants would appreciate if the Examiner would annotate this PTO Form 1449 with her initials for each reference that she has reviewed.

It is respectfully requested that the cited information on this Form 1449 be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. As provided for by 37 CFR 1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this statement and no representation is being made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all the possible relevant information.

Applicants believe that no fee is required for submission of this statement, since these references were previously made of record in the present application on May 21, 2002 prior to a first Office Action on the merits. However, if a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fee from the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 50-0990. Please deduct any additional fees from, or credit any overpayment to, the above-noted Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
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